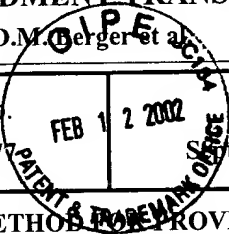

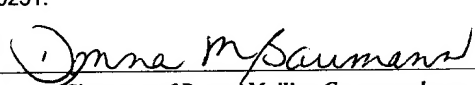


AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)				Docket No. P-4579	
Applicant(s): D.M. Berger et al.					
Serial No. 09/395,677		Filing Date September 10, 1999	Examiner B. Forman	Group Art Unit 1655	
Invention: METHOD FOR PROVIDING LONG-TERM STABILITY TO CELLS FOR DIAGNOSTIC TESTING					
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				FEB 20 2002	
<u>TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</u>					
TECH CENTER 1600/2900					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.					
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
CLAIMS AS AMENDED					
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	19 -	20 =	0 x	\$18.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	1 -	3 =	0 x	\$84.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1666 A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> Dated: January 31, 2002 </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 20px;">  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div> Bruce S. Weintraub Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 34,277 Becton, Dickinson and Company 1 Becton Drive Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417 201-847-7096 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 300px;"> I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on <u>1-31-02</u> with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.  Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence Donna M. Baumann Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence </div> </div> </div>					
CC:					

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: DOLORES M. BERGER ET AL.

SERIAL NO.: 09/395,677 GROUP: 1655

FILING DATE: SEPTEMBER 10, 1999 EXAMINER: B. FORMAN

FOR: METHOD FOR PROVIDING LONG-TERM
STABILITY TO CELLS FOR DIAGNOSTIC TESTING

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action of August 20, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 13 as follows.

1. (3x Amended) A method for stabilizing the nucleic acids of at least one cell in a sample, wherein said method comprises:

- (a) adding to a vessel containing the sample, a composition comprising:
- (i) a first substance having a concentration effective for precipitating or denaturing proteins, comprising at least one

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ON January 31, 2002
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Donna M. Baumann
NAME OF APPLICANT, ASSIGNEE OR
REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE
Donna M. Baumann
(SIGNATURE)
January 31, 2002
(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Di